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NIO # 2385-74

29 October 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

SUBJECT : More on the Problem of Assessing Warsaw
Pact Theater Forces

25X1 1. On 30 October, I sent to General Walters as Acting Director, the draft of a paper which I had asked [] to do on the problems inherent in the Community's continuing responsibility for maintaining a valid, current assessment of the size, strength and capabilities of the Warsaw Pact's theater forces. After a round table discussion of [] paper (which produced remarkably few differences of opinion), I asked him to write out some specific recommendations on what might be done to improve the Community's capability to assess the Pact theater forces. He has now done so in the form of a final section to his original paper.

25X1 2. The new piece is attached. I propose to have another round table discussion at 1545, Thursday, 31 October. [] has again put forth his candid views without concern for anyone's sensibilities or vested interests. Because he has run counter to some of the current ways of making assessments of the Warsaw Pact's theater forces, I expect there will be some distinct differences of opinion within the Community to 25X1 [] recommendations. His views, however, are stimulatingly provocative and should stimulate a useful discussion.

[George A. Carver, Jr.]

George A. Carver, Jr.
Deputy for National Intelligence Officers

Attachment

Section V C. BEANS AND BEAN COUNTERS, dated
29 October 1974